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Later on the officials demanded the registration of all the land, and the Earth Eyes not only registered their own lands in their own names, but registered the lands of the confiding Black Bloods as well, also in their own names. Before long they claimed these lands as their own, and an appeal to the official registers confirmed their claims. In this way the Black Bloods were done out of a lot of their land, and have had no redress. Sometimes the Earth Eyes have been weak men, and then the Black Bloods have tried to wrest back their lands, and here and there they have succeeded in doing so.

As a rule the Earth Eyes retain a part of the land for their own immediate use. Of the rest a part is rented out to tenants, who enjoy a fairly good fixity of tenure, and the rest is apportioned at a very nominal rental to the Black Bloods who, in addition to the various services they have to render to their overlords, pay a nominal rental, often in kind. The rent is just large enough to keep evident the overlord's title to the land. In some cases a horse and an ox have to be paid to the overlord by each generation, and a goat every three years.

The Black Bloods have to render fealty to the Earth Eyes, and when visiting them have to perform the kotow. The Earth Eyes can demand their services at any time, and when any fighting has to be done they must bring their men properly armed and provisioned, ready to defend their Earth Eye from attack, or to make attack on his behalf Now that the Chinese Government is being more firmly established over the lands where the Nosu own most of the soil, fighting is not so general as it used to be, but even now, in purely Chinese-governed territory a year never passes without some record of tribal fighting which engages a lot of men and leads

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564 sometimes to loss of life. The Black Bloods in return for
701 their lands must put their lives and services at the disposal of the overlords, who sometimes rule them with a rod of iron. I know one Black Blood who dare not ride a horse in the district where he lives because the overlord has forbidden that privilege to Nosu of the second rank. When talking to me about the affairs in his neighbourhood the Black Blood saved his face by ascribing his not riding a horse to some other reason, but I found out the true reason why he always walked.
[231] I know it was a real deprivation, because to a Nosu a horse is almost as necessary as to an Arab of the desert.

[567] Nearly all the Earth Eyes and Black Bloods keep a number
564 of White Blood retainers, some of whom are slaves, with their
631 property, persons and family at the absolute disposal of their masters. These retainers again have portions of land assigned to them, and pay for this land in personal service. They also have to hold themselves in readiness to respond to their lord's call, and to fight for him and even lay down their
567 lives if so commanded. I visited some of the slaves' homes,
726 and saw, hung on the wall of each house, weapons and a bag
202 of oatmeal. In the bag are also a thin copper basin and a spoon. The weapons must always be in readiness and the bag full. Whenever there is trouble or the overlord needs help in fighting the ram's horn is blown from the lord's castle or residence, and as soon as the warning sound is heard the retainer seizes his bag of oatmeal, ties it over his shoulder, takes his weapons in his hands and hastens to the sound of the ram's horn. It is astonishing how far the sound of these horns carry. In some places the aborigines who have become Christians call their companions to worship by the blowing of one of these horns. The hole is not at the end of the horn,